

Penobscot Bay Medical Associates, doing business as Martin's Point, became a designated uniform service treatment facility. Maine military retirees were able to come from all over the State to the facility and have their care paid for by CHAMPUS. Access to primary care—family medicine, internal medicine and pediatrics—along with on-site laboratory, dental, optometry, pharmacy and radiology was made available to all patients utilizing the facility.

In 1996, under the U.S. Family Health Plan, Martin's Point was authorized as a TRICARE prime provider and awarded their first multimillion-dollar, multiyear contract with the Department of Defense. This all happened under the direction of Dr. David Howes, who became the president and CEO of Martin's Point in 1996.

In the 2000s, Martin's Point expanded their USHFP membership—they now have over 35,000 members in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, and the northern tier of Pennsylvania.

Then, in 2006, they launched their Generations Advantage plans. These are Medicare Advantage options for seniors and persons with disabilities in six Maine counties. They have since expanded so that in 2010, their Medicare Advantage plans are offered in all 16 counties in Maine. They serve over 12,500 members.

In 2008, Martin's Point became one of the first 40 organizations to become a prototyping organization in the Institute for Healthcare Improvements Triple Aim initiative. In 2009, they affiliated with Bowdoin Medical Group, a large group of physicians with five health centers in southern and coastal Maine communities. This acquisition essentially doubled Martin's Point provider base and patient count—bringing their total number of health centers up to 9.

In November 2010, Martin's Point opened the doors of their new, state-of-the-art primary care facility on the Veranda St. peninsula at Martin's Point. This flagship facility, designed with input from providers, patients and other clinical employees, is a fitting tribute to the patient-focused philosophy of Martin's Point and helps them to realize their unending commitment to providing a better health care experience for their patients.

Today, Martin's Point's Medicare Advantage plans are in the top 3 percent nationally based on quality. I am delighted to recognize Martin's Point for this accomplishment, and I wish them all the best in the coming years.

NATIONAL TRADEMARK EXPO

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I would like to recognize and express my support of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's, USPTO, National Trademark Expo.

Trademarks are characteristics of a good or service such as a name, symbol, or sound that identify and distin-

guish one party's goods and services from those of others and help many of us distinguish between authentic and counterfeit merchandise. On any given day, an individual may be exposed to as many as 1,500 trademarks.

Trademarks are useful tools against counterfeit goods, which cost the United States billions of dollars and many jobs each year, as well as undermine consumer confidence in brand integrity when purchasers encounter imitation goods of lesser quality. Through the USPTO's efficient approval process and registration of trademarks, the agency assists businesses in protecting their investments, promoting goods and services, and safeguarding consumers against confusion and deception in the marketplace.

This year's National Trademark Expo will be held on Friday, October 14, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, October 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, VA. The Expo will feature educational seminars, children's workshops, story time, guided tours and presentations from some of America's leading large corporations, small businesses, governmental agencies and non-profit corporations.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the USPTO for its continued efforts to educate the public on the important role of trademarks, as well as the benefits of the National Trademark Expo.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ALFRED FLOWERS

• Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, I take this opportunity to congratulate MG Alfred K. Flowers, U.S. Air Force, for his dedicated service to our country. General Flowers has the distinct honor of being the longest serving member in the history of the U.S. Air Force, and he is the longest serving active duty member in the Department of Defense.

In his present assignment, General Flowers serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget and is responsible for planning and directing the Air Force's budget. Over the last 2 years in this role, he led a team of over 160 military, civilian and contractor professionals charged on behalf of the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force to present to the Congress the funding of all Air Force programs. It is his responsibility to organize and present to the Congress annual appropriations submissions as well as various overseas contingency operations requests. His leadership and his keen understanding of the Congress has served the Air Force and the security interests of our country very well during appearances of the senior leadership of the Air Force before committees of the House and Senate. General Flowers' vision, inspirational leader-

ship, and unselfish devotion to duty have resulted in important improvements in the resourcing of and strategic direction of Air Force's missions.

General Flowers began his career as an enlisted supply warehouseman in August 1965 at Grand Forks Air Force Base. He then served as an air transportation specialist for 4 years beginning in September 1967. In 1971, General Flowers became an accounting specialist for the Air Force and served 7 years in that role. After his selection to the grade of master sergeant, General Flowers was commissioned, following graduation from Officer Training School as a distinguished graduate in December 1978. In his first three assignments as a budget officer, he served at the squadron, major command and air staff levels. In 1990, he was assigned as Chief of the Budget Operations Division for Air Combat Command, where he later served as the chief of budget.

The general has served on the Joint Staff as a defense resource manager, and in 1999 was the director of budget programs for the Department of the Air Force. General Flowers also served as the Air Education and Training Command comptroller. His other assignments include director, Center for Force Structure, Requirements, Resources and Strategic Assessments at Headquarters U.S. Special Operations Command, and commander, Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools. Prior to his current assignment, the general was commander, 2nd Air Force, at Keesler Air Force Base, MS.

Of distinct importance and significance, as the comptroller for Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, he budgeted and managed funding of the largest flying hour program in the Air Force, involving 542,000 hours annually and 38 percent of the Air Force's total flying hour program and spanning 21 major weapons systems. As director, Center for Force Structure, Requirements and Strategic Assessments, U.S. Special Operations Command, he spearheaded the largest increase in resources and force structure for Special Operations Forces in the history of U.S. Special Operations Command. His insightful vision and tireless dedication were instrumental in garnering 13,000 additional personnel and \$11 billion in additional funding to enhance and expand Special Operations Forces to successfully execute the Global War on Terrorism.

As the 2nd Air Force Commander, General Flowers led the largest transformation of basic military training in 50 years, expanding training from 6.5 to 8.5 weeks. This modernization was vital to providing realistic expeditionary combat skills training to prepare enlisted airmen for their deployments. His support of combatant commanders included providing over 14,000 joint expeditionary tasking airmen to the area of responsibility and reshaped the role of the Air Force in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Following these assignments, General Flowers was well prepared to assume his current position as the director of the Air Force budget. Under his direction, this organization developed, established, and cultivated professional relationships within the air staff, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, and with Members and staff of the U.S. Congress, significantly improving the record of approval of resources necessary to support key warfighter programs. He provided critical oversight and direction for over 30 Air Force appropriations to accurately deliver a nearly \$800 billion Future Years' Defense Program budget to the Office of the Secretary of Defense on time and on target. He has successfully completed annual budget submissions of close to \$170 billion for fiscal years 2011, 2012, and 2013 and justified them to the Secretary of Defense, the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Defense Appropriations and Authorization Subcommittees and the Congressional Budget Office. General Flowers' leadership, sound judgment, and wise counsel will be sorely missed by all.

I am pleased to commend General Flowers for his historic and outstanding service to our country, which is a great example of distinguished military service. On the occasion of his upcoming retirement, I wish General Flowers and his family all the very best in the years to come.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. KOHL. Madam President, today I recognize and congratulate Washington High School on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. As a proud alumnus, I take these moments to reflect on the purple and gold's story, success and accomplishments that have endured these past 100 years.

Located in the Sherman Park Neighborhood of Milwaukee, WI, Washington High School, with its never-ending commitment to excellence, has welcomed students through its doors and ushered them out to embrace bright futures for ten decades. Throughout its evolution and changes, Washington High School has always provided its students with a first class education, instilling values and providing skills that help students pursue employment, higher education and individual dreams.

Well-known for its focus on technology, the innovative high school created the first Career Specialty Program in 1976 focusing on computers and earning the school its reputation as "the computer school." It has been nationally recognized for its curriculum which builds knowledge and critical thinking skills through the use of technology.

The school proudly acclaims each graduating class including notable alumni who achieved excellence in

business, attained the office of Governor of Wisconsin, served at the highest level of our military, became Commissioner of Baseball, reached stardom on Broadway and in Hollywood, joined the ranks of professional athletes, and even one who got elected U.S. Senator; each and every graduate a remarkable person who graduated from a remarkable place, Washington High School.

Wisconsin's strong tradition of excellence in education has been shaped by Washington High School's rich, long history filled with a century of proud, hopeful students, and extremely dedicated faculty and staff. As alumni from varied graduating classes and walks of life, we gather as one body to celebrate collectively the spirit of our high school years, and the achievements, made individually and collectively by a century of alumni.

As all Washington High School alumni have done before, we cheer for the purple and gold, the Purgolders and everything this fine institution represents.

With a warm welcome to all who cherish and gather to remember, I proudly congratulate Washington High School, my alma mater, on its 100th anniversary, and my sincere best wishes for 100 more exceptional years.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2433. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the employment and training of veterans, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2944) to provide for the continued performance of the functions of the United States Parole Commission, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 1:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2832. An act to extend the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2944. An act to provide for the continued performance of the functions of the United States Parole Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3078. An act to implement the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement.

H.R. 3079. An act to implement the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement.

H.R. 3080. An act to implement the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2433. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the employment and training of veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-63. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Utah expressing support for an amendment to the United States Constitution to balance the federal budget and restrict tax increases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 201

Whereas, the Legislature of the state of Utah acknowledges that the United States of America is facing a crippling debt crisis because of unrestrained spending and irresponsible fiscal policies;

Whereas, a majority of sitting United States Senators—including all 47 Republicans, 10 Democrats, and one Independent—have specifically expressed support for a requirement to balance the federal budget; and

Whereas, the 112th Congress is currently considering the following Constitutional Amendment, Senate Joint Resolution 10, which was introduced on March 31, 2011, by United States Senators Orrin Hatch and Mike Lee, both from Utah:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States:

Article—

Section 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless two-thirds of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of Congress shall provide by law for a specific excess of outlays over receipts by a roll call vote.

Section 2. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall not exceed 18 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States for the calendar year ending before the beginning of such fiscal year, unless two-thirds of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of Congress shall provide by law for a specific amount in excess of such 18 percent by a roll call vote.

Section 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the United States Government for that fiscal year in which—

(1) total outlays do not exceed total receipts; and

(2) total outlays do not exceed 18 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States for the calendar year ending before the beginning of such fiscal year.

Section 4. Any bill that imposes a new tax or increases the statutory rate of any tax or the aggregate amount of revenue may pass only by a two-thirds majority of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of Congress by a roll call vote. For the purpose of determining any increase in revenue under this section, there shall be excluded any increase resulting from the lowering of the statutory rate of any tax.